

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Andrew L. DIRIENZO

Docket No. AIC-008US

Continuation of

Serial No.: 09/745,489

Previously Assigned to:

Group Art Unit: 2767

Filed: September 25, 2001

Examiner: T. Peeso

For: ATTACHMENT INTEGRATED CLAIMS SYSTEM AND OPERATING
METHOD THEREFOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the
application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first full paragraph to read as follows:

--This is a continuation of application Serial Nos. 08/824,010, 08/823,977, and 08/823,978,
all of which were filed on March 25, 1997, application Serial No. 09/232,805, which was filed on
January 19, 1999, as a continuation of Serial No. 08/824,010, Serial No. 09/587,284, which was filed
on June 5, 2000 as a continuation of application Serial No. 09/232,805, and Serial No.: 09/745,489,
which was filed on December 26, 2000 as a continuation of Serial No. 09/587,284. All of the above-
identified applications claim priority from Provisional Application No. 60/014,427, which was filed
on March 28, 1996.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-43 without disclaimer of or prejudice to the subject matter thereof and INSERT claims 44 - 46 as follows:

--44. A coherent computer system, comprising:

a plurality of first computers operable by first users, each of the first computers comprising a first storage medium which stores computer readable instructions permitting a respective first computer to access a server, and

a server computer accessible via a wide area network (WAN) which stores computer readable instructions for permitting each of the first computer to:

receive a form including N fields;

receive textual data as field data in selected ones of the N fields;

assemble said field data into a first file; and

transmit the first file to a selected one of a plurality of second computers via a communications channel; and

a plurality of second computers operable by associated second users, each of the second computers comprising a second storage medium which stores computer readable instructions permitting a respective second computer to receive said first file via the communications channel, wherein:

the selected ones of the N fields which accept text data are determined responsive to text entered into a first predetermined one of the N fields,

18 the format of the file is determined responsive to text entered in the first predetermined one
19 of the N fields

20 the selected one of the second computers is selected responsive to the text entered into the
21 first predetermined one of the N fields,

22 the computer readable instructions stored on the server are updated responsive to changes
23 generated by the second users, and

24 N is an integer greater than 2.--

--45. The coherent computer system as recited in Claim 44, wherein the selected ones of the
N fields is further limited responsive to text entry into a second predetermined one of the N fields. --

--46. The coherent computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the first predetermined
one of the N fields accepts a payer name or ID number, and wherein the second predetermined on
of the N fields accepts a code specifying a medical service.--


REMARKS

Claim 44-46 are pending in the application as a result of the instant Amendment. It is respectfully submitted that claim 44-46 are fully supported by the specifications as filed; the new claim does not add new matter to the instant application.

It is respectfully submitted that the Preliminary Amendment places the above-identified application in better condition for initial examination.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond H. J. Powell, Jr.
Reg. No. 34,231

Westerlund & Powell, P.C.
122 N. Alfred Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3011
Tel: (703) 706-5862
Fax: (703) 706-5860

Date: September 25, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: AIC-008US